

### **Culture and community are honored**

The YTC process respects and adapts to the values and important rituals the youth shares at the conference.

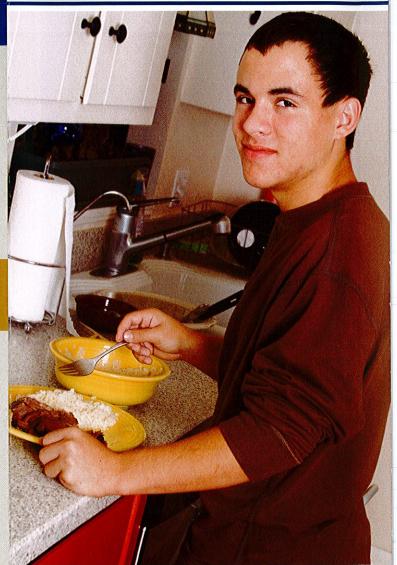
The conference is held where youth are most comfortable, usually in the community. The group identifies and harnesses community resources that support the youth in being independent.

### Start now — Call 612-596-7000.

Youth in Transition Conferences are used by Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department. Hennepin does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religious, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or public assistance status. If you believe Hennepin County has discriminated against you, call Human Resources at 612-348-3562 or TTY 612-348-5467.

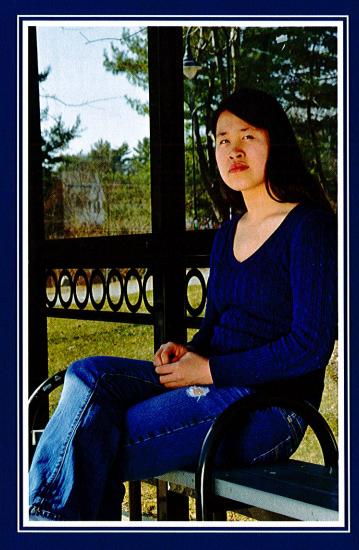


# Youth in Transition Conference





Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department



What do you want to be?

What are you **going to do** when you're **on your own**?

## Using a **Youth in Transition Conference** to plan for independence

### Youth take the lead

A Youth in Transition Conference (YTC) is a process where young people take the lead in planning for their futures. Youth invite people who are important to them – family members, friends, teachers, spiritual guides, other professionals — to help them create a plan for independence. Since this is a conference, not counseling, everyone at the table is an equal, but the youth is the director in charge.

This process helps youth build a circle of support to develop a blueprint and resources for independence. What do they want their lives to be like? What do they need to make that happen?

### How the Youth in Transition Conference works

Everyone is introduced, and roles and guidelines are established. The youth is in charge and will tell the group — the "circle of support" — what he or she sees for their future.

The group works together to help identify the youth's strengths, assets and needs as well as potential issues and concerns. The youth develops a plan to move to independence. The youth uses the plan to figure out what needs to be done, who can help do it, and when things need to happen.

### **Guiding principles for youth**

- You have strengths and decision-making abilities.
- You, your family and friends have the most passion for and investment in your success in transitioning to independence.
- You know your history, strengths, interests and needs.
- You need relevant information to make decisions and plan for independence.
- The decisions made by you and your circle of support are honored and respected by Hennepin County as long as the transition plan ensures your safety.